

In these particulars, the comparison with the present generation is not encouraging.

With regard to the history of the Loomis family in Europe, I have not obtained much new information since the publication of the first edition. I have sought information from every source within my reach, but without much success. Mature reflection has, however, led me to adopt a more decided opinion respecting the origin of the Loomis name, the reasons for which will be found in the following pages. Among the new facts stated in this edition will be noticed the burning of John Lomas for *heresy* in 1556. Similar cases in England were not very numerous, but at the time of the planting of the New England colonies, dissenters from the Established Church of England were made very uncomfortable, and we can easily understand why Joseph Loomis, (although a man of respectable pecuniary means,) should be willing to abandon the comforts of his native country, and seek a new home among the savages of America.

Before commencing the printing of this volume I issued a very large number of circulars announcing my plan of publication, and soliciting additional information for the new edition. Many of the answers to these circulars did not arrive until the printing was far advanced. Whenever it was practicable, the information thus obtained has been incorporated in this volume in its appropriate place, but many of the letters arrived too late. The result is that in some cases the latter part of the book contains statements which differ from what had been given on a preceding page. In one or two cases it is stated that a man had *no children*, while under the next generation the names of his children are recorded.

When two persons of the Loomis name have been married to each other, I have generally indicated in brackets each person's number in this catalogue. It thus sometimes became necessary to refer to a subsequent page not yet in type, and in consequence of the additions to my manuscript during the progress of printing, these numbers were necessarily changed. It has thus happened in a few cases that in referring to a person on a subsequent page, the number is quoted erroneously. In all cases, however, it will be easy, by means of one of the Indices, to find the name intended.